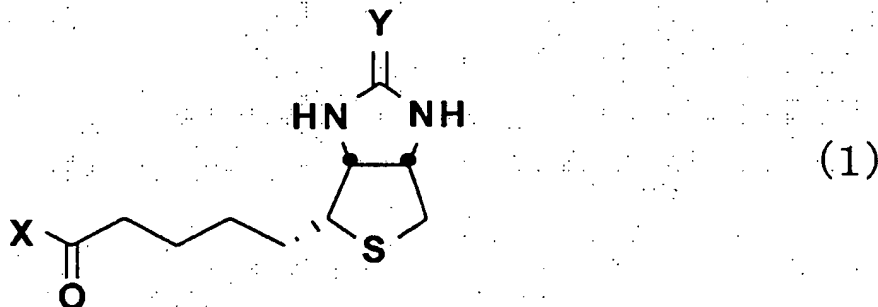


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parentheses, underlined text indicating insertions, and strikethrough and/or double brackets indicating deletions.

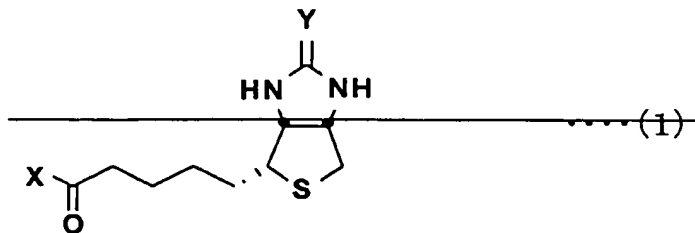
Listing of the Claims:

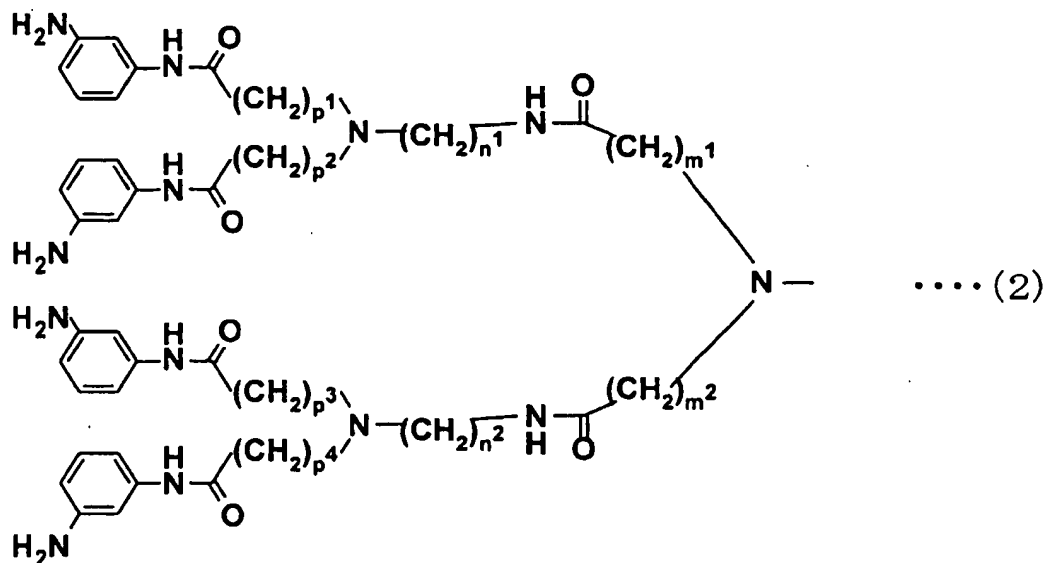
1. (Currently Amended) A versatile-linker compound ^{comprising} of [^] a structure represented by following general formula (1),



where ~~wherein~~ Y has a structure represented by O or NH, and X has a structure represented by following general formula (2),

~~serving as a multi branched structure moiety including four hydrocarbon derivative chains, wherein the hydrocarbon derivative chains each include an aromatic amino group at an end thereof, and may or may not include a carbon nitrogen bond in a backbone thereof.~~





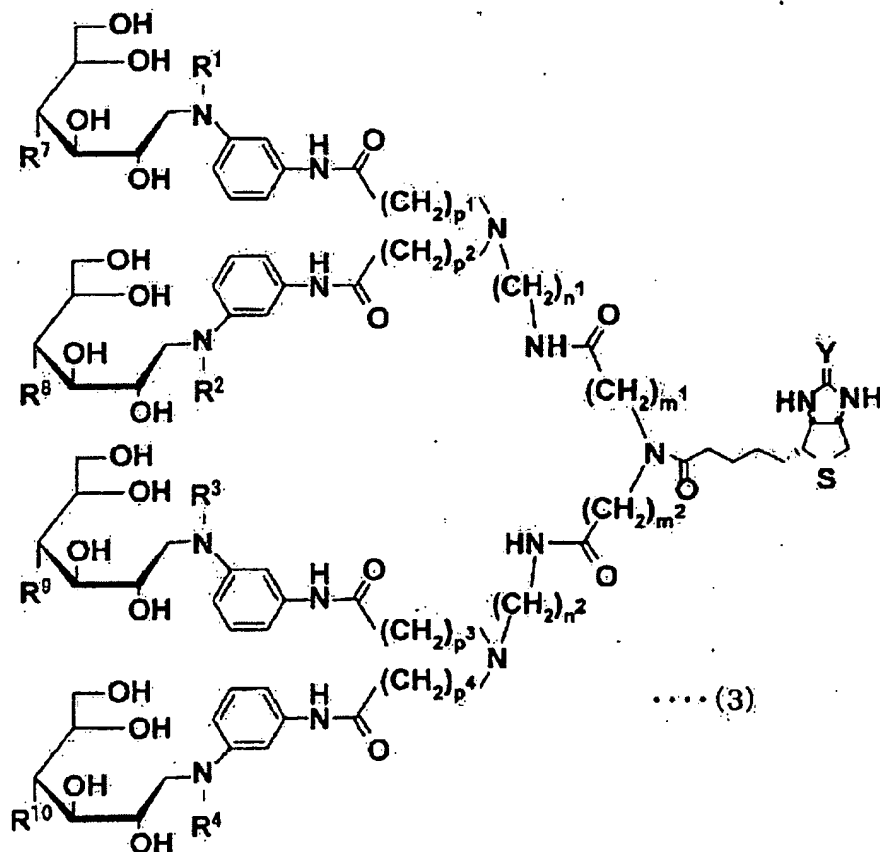
~~2.~~ (Canceled)

✓ ~~3.~~ (Currently Amended) The versatile linker compound according to Claim-~~21~~, where m¹, m², n¹, n², p¹, p², p³, and p⁴ are all represented by 2 in the general formula (2).

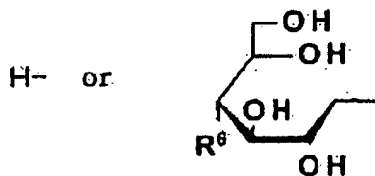
7. A. (Previously Presented) A ligand which comprises the aromatic amino group of the linker compound according to Claim 1 ^{or} and ^{wherein} a sugar molecule ^{is linked to} ~~introduced into~~ the aromatic amino group.

5. (Original) The ligand according to Claim 4, wherein said sugar molecule is ~~any one of~~ ^{selected from the group consisting of} a monosaccharide, an oligosaccharide, and a polysaccharide.

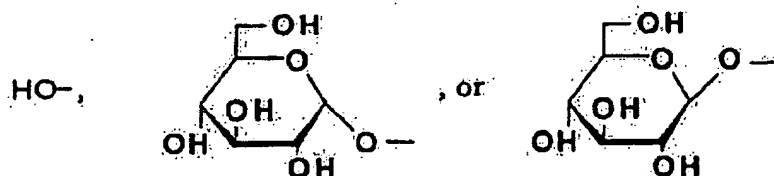
§ 6. (Currently Amended) A ligand of a structure represented by following general formula (3), where m^1 , m^2 , n^1 , n^2 , p^1 , p^2 , p^3 , and p^4 are independently ~~an~~ integers of 1 to 6, <=



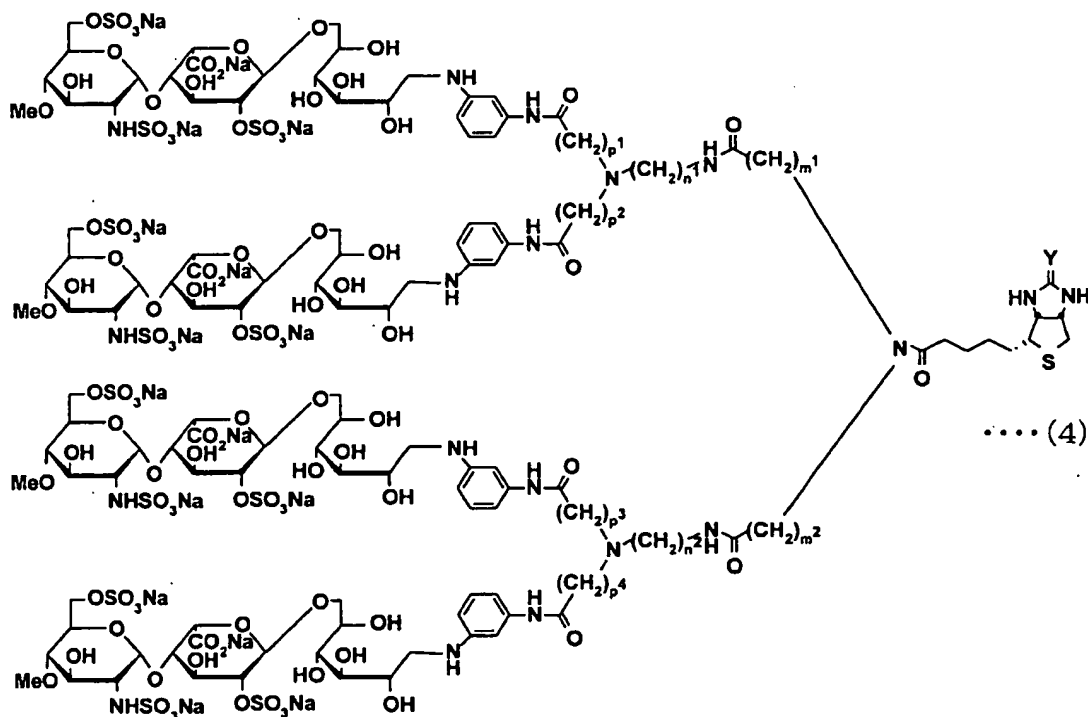
~~where~~ wherein Y has a structure represented by O or NH, and R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , and R^4 independently ~~has~~ have a structure represented by



and R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , and R^{10} have a structure selected from the group consisting of



6 ~~7~~. (Currently Amended) A ligand of a structure represented by following general formula (4), where Y has a structure represented by O or NH, and m^1 , m^2 , n^1 , n^2 , p^1 , p^2 , p^3 , and p^4 are independently an integers of 1 to 6.



8. (Currently Amended) A producing method of a versatile linker compound, comprising the steps of:

protecting an aromatic amino group end of each of four side chains of an amine compound;

carrying out a condensation reaction between a biotin-containing compound and ~~an~~ the amine compound wherein including four

Cancelled

~~branched chains each having an each aromatic amino group end of the~~
~~amine compound is protected by a protecting group; and~~
~~deprotecting the protecting group at the aromatic amino group~~
~~end.~~

Cancelled 9. (Currently Amended) A producing method of a ligand,
comprising the step of carrying out a reductive amination reaction by
~~using adding~~ the linker compound of Claim 1 and a sugar molecule.

7 10. (Previously Presented) A ~~sugar molecule introducing method~~
which comprises the step of ~~causing~~ ^{allowing} a solution containing the ligand of
Claim 4 to come into contact with ~~a supporter including streptoavidin or~~
^{the surface of the support having streptavidin}
~~avidin immobilized on a surface thereof.~~ ^{thereon}

6 11. (Previously Presented) A ligand carrier which comprises the
ligand of Claim 4 immobilized on a surface of a ~~supporter through a~~
^{support having streptavidin or}
~~biotin-avidin bond formed between a biotin moiety or iminobiotin moiety~~ ^{avidin}
~~and streptoavidin or avidin.~~ ^{immobilized thereon.}

Cancelled 12. (Original) The ligand carrier according to Claim 11, wherein
the supporter includes streptoavidin or avidin immobilized thereon.

a 13. (Currently Amended) The ligand carrier according to
Claim 11, ^{support} wherein the ~~supporter~~ is ~~used as a~~ sensor chip for a surface
plasmon resonance measurement.

10 14. (Currently Amended) The ligand carrier according to Claim 11, wherein the ^{support}~~supporter~~ is used as a column for an affinity chromatography carrier.

15.-17. (Canceled)

11 18. (Previously Presented) A ^{method of immobilizing a ligand on a surface of a support,}~~sugar molecule introducing method~~ which comprises the step of ^{allowing}~~causing~~ a solution containing the ligand of Claim 6 to come into contact with ^{the surface of the support having streptavidin}~~a supporter including streptavidin~~ or avidin immobilized ^{thereon}~~on a surface thereof~~.

12 19. (Previously Presented) A ligand carrier which comprises the ligand of Claim 6 immobilized on a surface of a ^{support having streptavidin or avidin immobilized thereon,}~~supporter through a~~ ~~biotin-avidin bond formed between a biotin moiety or iminobiotin moiety and streptavidin or avidin.~~

Canceled 20. (Previously Presented) The ligand carrier according to Claim 19, wherein the supporter includes streptavidin or avidin immobilized thereon.

13 21. (Currently Amended) The ligand carrier according to Claim 19, wherein the ^{support}~~supporter~~ is used as a sensor chip for a surface plasmon resonance measurement.

14 / 22. (Currently Amended) The ligand carrier according to Claim 19, wherein the ^{support}~~supporter~~ is used as a column for an affinity chromatography carrier.

15 / 23. (Previously Presented) A ^{method of immobilizing a ligand on a surface of a support,}~~sugar molecule introducing method~~ which comprises the step of ^{allowing}~~causing~~ a solution containing the ligand of Claim 7 to come into contact with ^{the surface of the support having streptavidin}~~a supporter including streptavidin~~ or avidin immobilized ^{thereon.}~~on a surface thereof~~.

16 / 24. (Previously Presented) A ligand carrier which comprises the ligand of Claim 7 immobilized on a surface of a ^{support having streptavidin or avidin}~~supporter through a~~ ^{immobilized thereon.}~~biotin-avidin bond formed between a biotin moiety or iminobiotin moiety and streptavidin or avidin.~~

Cancelled 25. (Previously Presented) The ligand carrier according to Claim 24, wherein the supporter includes streptavidin or avidin immobilized thereon.

17 / 26. (Currently Amended) The ligand carrier according to Claim 24, wherein the ^{support}~~supporter~~ is used as a sensor chip for a surface plasmon resonance measurement.

18 / 27. (Currently Amended) The ligand carrier according to Claim 24, wherein the ^{support}~~supporter~~ is used as a column for an affinity chromatography carrier.

Cancelled

28. (Currently Amended) A method for a measurement of surface plasmon resonance, ~~wherein which comprises the step of immobilizing a linker compound of a structure of Claim 1 is used to immobilize the sugar molecules on the sensor chips.~~